

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE  
 POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH  
 60 FORSYTH STREET, SW SUITE 6M80  
 ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303

OFFICE: 404-562-5850      FAX: 404-562-5875      JOHNNY FREEMAN: 404-562-5870  
 INTERNET: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm>      RECORDING: 404-562-5856

January 3, 2003

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION  
 FOR WEEK ENDING 04-Jan-03 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 01/04/03	PREVIOUS WEEK 12/28/02
BRO-FRY	131,001	111,777
LT HENS	1,318	948
HVY HENS	1,187	757

**U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA  
 WEEK ENDING 21-Dec-02 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	341	11	352
LAST WEEK	168	0	168
SAME WEEK YR AGO	407	0	407
TO-DATE/2002	15,181	308	15,489
TO-DATE/2001	20,783	301	21,084

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

**TOTAL U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN THE U.S. AND CANADA**

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
HEAD	2,123	1,453	3,576
LAST WEEK	1,997	1,342	3,339
SAME WEEK YR AGO	2,349	1,419	3,768
TO-DATE/2002	103,654	72,445	176,099
TO-DATE/2001	111,761	70,961	182,722

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION  
 WEEK ENDING 28-Dec-02 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
HEAD	107,976 (A)	967	678	1,645
AVG WT	5.10	3.23	7.94	5.17
LAST WEEK	152,854	1,782	1,442	3,224
SAME WK YR AGO	115,281	1,176	818	1,994
AVG WT	5.23	3.46	7.98	5.31
TO-DATE/2002	7,986,625	89,440	72,815	162,255
TO-DATE/2001	7,949,708	92,154	71,478	163,632

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 144.4 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 154.7 million head or 10.3 million head more than or 107 percent of estimated fryers available.

(R) Revised

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,  
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING December 21, 2002**

(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE	(B) RETAIL	(C) DEBONING
4.20 LBS & DOWN	4.21-5.25 LBS	5.26 LBS & UP
-----THOUSANDS-----		

Head	19,631	20,191	31,672
Avg Weight	3.87	4.69	6.05
% of total /1	27%	28%	44%
COMPARISONS			
Last week	18,360	17,535	36,372
Avg Weight	3.70	4.74	6.26
% of total /1	25%	24%	50%
Same week, yr ago /2	19,781	31,665	26,482
Avg Weight	4.05	4.58	5.92
% of total /1	25%	41%	34%
To date/2002	1,289,473	1,137,281	2,084,283
To date/2001	1,545,384	1,364,433	2,173,340

/1 MAY NOT TOTAL TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING

/2 COMPARABLE WEEK

- (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.
- (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
- (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 28-Dec-02  
(THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG (B) HENS	TOMS	YOUNG BREEDERS	OLD BREEDERS	TOTAL
HEAD	1,122	1,667	17	4	2,810
AVG WT	15.11	38.24	26.12	33.23	28.93
LAST WEEK	1,827	2,903	38	1	4,769
SAME WK YR AGO	1,000	1,639	22	16	2,677
AVG WT	15.73	37.61	25.97	27.92	29.28
TO-DATE/2002	96,225	142,925	2,737	665	242,552
TO-DATE/2001	104,254	142,615	2,366	598	249,833

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.  
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.